

### Process

- Could the law be decided by popular vote?

### Permit and fee

- Permit fee seems too low. Would only cover the cost of code officer visiting a site once
- Raise fee, but only charge when initial permit is applied for. Don't charge for annual renewal
- Permit should automatically renew unless there has been a violation

### Code enforcement

- Lots of work. Not practical for one officer to do it all
- Does this belong under code enforcement or should this be animal control?
- Could the existing Town contract with the SPCA help with code enforcement?
  - Liz Thomas offered to investigate
- Use volunteer committee to help with training, site inspections, etc. This is a good idea. Volunteers can help to supplement the enforcement officer's time.
- Use the officer's time only when necessary, use volunteer committee members for the rest

### Property value

- Is a home more, or less, attractive to buyers knowing chickens are or could be next door?
- Is a home more, or less, attractive to buyers knowing the village allows keeping backyard chickens
- This will put an additional burden on village homeowners concerned about their property losing value due to chickens kept in neighbor's yard (s).
- Property values will go down
- One woman moved here recently and described how disappointed she was to find out from the real estate agent that chickens were not allowed in the village
- Can we get benchmark data from other communities? Have they seen property values go down, or seen an impact in real estate market due to allowing chickens

### Chicken Manure, Smell, Housekeeping

- Need to spell out requirements for waste management and housekeeping
- Enforcement is critical. Permits need to be revoked for serious violations
- Improperly managed Chicken Manure smells awful and attracts flies
- Farmers Market can demonstrate best practices and train permit holders
- It is in the interest of all permit holders for everyone to learn and follow best practices

## Predators, Rodents, Dogs, Flies

- Concerns and questions if chickens would attract predators or rodents
- Village is relatively free of flies. It would be a bad if chickens in the village attracted flies.
- Will chickens attract more Coyotes into the village?
- One woman said she kept backyard chickens in the Town and didn't have problem with Coyotes or predators
- Properly maintained chicken yards are clean, don't smell and don't attract rodents
- Chickens can cause dogs to bark.
- The person currently keeping chickens in the village said dogs are regularly walked in her neighborhood and property they don't bark at the chickens

## Density of chickens in neighborhood

- Is there a way to limit number of neighbors with permits? One may be OK, but what if all my neighbors kept chickens?
- One woman said her property in the village was on an odd-shaped lot and had 7 adjoining neighbors.
- Maybe there is a way to restrict relative adjacency of permit holders?

## Neighbor's permission

- Seeking neighbors permission should be required
- Seeking neighbors permission would be too restrictive
- Seeking permission should only be required once. Not required for renewals.
- Lots over a certain size should not require neighbor's permission. Chickens would not be visible
- Once permission is granted, the permission should be grandfathered, even when new neighbors move in
- New neighbors should have the right to "veto" a chicken permit.
- A chicken yard and coop is a big investment, permission (if needed at all) should only be required up front. Permit can always be revoked if code is not followed

## Other poultry and fowl

- Would ducks on ponds be allowed?
- No roosters!

## Agricultural district

- Is Tburg in an agricultural district?
- If village is in an Agricultural district, does that make permitting chickens or passing a new law any easier
- Would a new chicken law change any existing agricultural deed restrictions for a property

## Siting of Yard and Coop

- 10' from property line seems too close. "That's 20' from my side porch".
- Why not restrict location of coop to the same dimension from property line as a shed?
- Code needs to address portable coops that are moved around the yard
- Is a building permit really required for such a small structure? Example in catalog was 25 sq. ft. A permit isn't required for a dog house.
- Is a building permit required for a portable coop?
- Should coop be required to have a concrete pad to keep out vermin and predators?
- Should a coop be restricted from having a concrete pad to promote better drainage, healthier animals?
- Consider restricting distance of coop and yard from any dwelling
- Requiring minimum distances from dwellings could keep smaller properties from having chickens.
- Restricting chickens from smaller properties was seen as both a positive and a negative

## Use of meat

- What if a chick turns into a rooster? What to do?
- Easiest way to dispose of an old or unwanted chicken is to put it in a stew pot.
- Perhaps law should address primary intent (eggs), but not restrict consumption of the meat.
- It is impractical to restrict slaughter of chickens. How to enforce?
- You can already butcher a deer and gut a fish in the village. Why restrict butchering a chicken?

## Positive and negative examples of keeping chickens

- One gentleman described a small chicken operation he had seen in another Finger Lakes community. It was poorly managed and attracted rats, predators. It smelled awful and negatively impacted adjoining properties
- A neighbor of the village resident currently keeping chickens wanted everyone to know she loved the chickens and had no concerns. She experienced no smell, no noise with the chickens. She described it as a nice part of her life.
- One resident thought allowing chickens in village would represent a return to the "good part of the past of Trumansburg". She fondly remembers the sight and sound of chickens in the village.
- Positive descriptions of backyard chickens in larger cities like Portland

## Other supporting comments

- We have to be realistic that this won't be perfect. There will be failures and setbacks, but we can learn from our mistakes and make it work
- We should organize a tour of local backyard chicken setups. "Not bad once you see it"
- This is a progressive community that supports local foods. Great way to teach your kids

- Farmers Market volunteer committee can provide peer support and community engagement

#### Alternative approach to allowing chickens in Tburg

- Village is small and chickens are allowed just outside the village. In Tburg, one could keep a coop just outside the village on a small parcel of land. That is impractical idea in a big city that does not allow chickens. It would require someone to drive a long distance to keep chickens. It could work in Tburg, because the village is small
- This idea could be accomplished individually or in a cooperative structured like a community garden
- Village by its very nature is more restrictive (zoning, laws, etc.) than surrounding Town. It is a reality living in the village comes with additional restrictions.